

Utah Advisory Council on Intergovernmental Relations

Ken Bassett, Chair Commissioner Patrick Cone, First Vice Chair Senator Millie Peterson, Second Vice Chair Mark Bedel, Executive Director John Bennett, Assistant Director Sylvia Haro, Executive Secretary

MINUTES

March 23, 2001 10:00 a.m. Room 223, State Capitol

Members Present:

Janice Auger, Taylorsville City Mayor
Ken Bassett, Chair, Vernal City Manager
Chad Bennion, Representative
Ted Boyer, Dept. of Commerce Director
Lois Bulloch, Iron County Commissioner
Chesley Christensen, Mt. Pleasant Mayor
Patrick Cone, Summit County Commissioner
Palmer DePaulis, Tax Commission Commissioner
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Linda Hamilton, South Ogden City Manager
Robert Haywood, Dept. of Human Services
Peter Knudson, Senator
Carol Page, Davis County Commissioner
Millie Peterson, Senator
James Whitaker, Dept. of Workforce Services
Ann Wilcox-Hardy, Citizen Appointee

Staff:

Mark Bedel, GOPB John Bennett, GOPB Sylvia Haro, GOPB

Excused/Absent:

Jackie Biskupski, Representative
Dick Bradford, DCED
Margaret Dayton, Representative
Randy Horiuchi, Salt Lake City Council
Linda Ogden, Utah School Board Association Pres.
John Quick, Dept. of Transportation

I. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Ken Bassett, UACIR chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Chairman Bassett welcomed all those in attendance and gave everyone the opportunity to introduce themselves..

II. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from meeting on February 9, 2001 The following corrections were made: •Page three, second paragraph, seventh line - change "Linda Ogden expressed opposition.." to read "Linda Ogden expressed **support**.." •Page three, fifth paragraph - change "Ann Wilcox Hardy" to read: "**Linda Ogden** suggested that having...." •Dick Bradford was not in attendance.

MOTION: Ann Wilcox-Hardy made a motion to approve the minutes from February 9, 2001. Chad Bennion seconded the motion. The minutes with the indicated corrections were unanimously approved.

Minutes from meeting on January 12, 2001

MOTION: Chesley Christensen made a motion to approve the minutes from January 12, 2001. Chad Bennion seconded the motion. The motion to approve the

minutes with no corrections or clarifications was unanimously approved.

Minutes from meeting on December 11, 2000

MOTION: Millie Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes from December 11, 2000. Janice Auger seconded the motion. The motion to approve the

minutes with no corrections or clarifications was unanimously approved.

III. Olympics and Local Governments

Lane Beattie, State Olympic Officer, reported that Utah is further along in the Olympic planning process than any other Olympics held in the past. There has been \$170 million in ticket sales at this time. Sydney had about \$20 million in tickets sold, and Atlanta had \$39 million in tickets sold at about the same time. All of the venues are complete and running. The Kearns Ice Skating Oval, is a phenomenal facility and had a stellar opening with the World Cup event. The event was sold out and several world records were set. Snowbasin had the World Cup downhill races scheduled recently, but the event was cancelled because of too much snow. Although it was not successful from the standpoint of being able to hold the races, it was very successful because of the support of the volunteers and everyone learned from the experiences. The support from the local communities has been astonishing. Mr. Beattie congratulated and thanked all those involved. During the 2002 Winter Games, the downhill races are scheduled on the first day of the Olympics and will last for six days. They need some latitude in case rescheduling is necessary, due to weather. All the facilities have had World Cup events and have been very successful. Starting in November of 2001, there will be other World Cups in several of the venues. Mr. Beattie encouraged every one to take the opportunity and attend these events.

The Legislature met and has been very kind and considerate in regards to the Olympics overall. The majority of the funding requested was appropriated, however we're still short about \$1.3 million. Even though we are still struggling with budget issues, we are confident that we can still move ahead. Some funding was appropriated to help communities across the state and we asked the Salt Lake Organizing Committee to match these funds. SLOC believed the match was money they had already put into the system and Mr. Beattie insists it was supposed to be new money. Negotiations with Mitt Romney are still going on and a decision will be made soon. Requests for this funding that come from local communities would need to be matched by their community.

Mr. Beattie indicated he plans on visiting every community/city/county in the state in the next few months, and present them with opportunities in getting them into the Olympic spirit, such as banners, flags, pins, etc.

The general torch relay route was announced and many people were not very happy with it. The State of Utah has no control over the route. Although we can encourage areas to consider. A complete detailed route has not yet been announced. Whether it goes through your community or not, it is something that you'll want to experience and have your people be involved. The selection of who runs in it is really going to be wide open. We would like to have people be torchbearers from every community. The concept of torchbearers is different than with any other Olympics, as we are trying to create a story. Mr. Beattie encouraged people to nominate individuals with inspirational

stories. The plans include putting those inspirational stories into a book.

As we get closer to the Games, one of the hardest things in dealing with Olympics is that many organizations want to know what's in it for them. The reality is that SLOCs responsibility is to put on the games. They try to be sensitive towards all of issues, but they have to respond to the IOC, USOC, sports federations, and other organizations that run all of the different venues. SLOC has already put many more dollars into facilities in the state than they are required to do. They spent \$274 million for facilities that will stay in Utah after the Games. They built the 60 meter ski jump at the Olympic Park, which isn't a competition ski jump, and felt it was important enough for our facilities to have. The Kearns Oval had the lighting underway and into construction and NBC thought the lighting was wonderful for public use, but not sufficient for their needs. The cost to bring in temporary lighting was an additional \$150,000, instead SLOC elected to spend \$400,000 and put in permanent lighting for future events. We feel very positive about the many things they have done, but there other issues that we are still struggling with. Mr. Beattie is still working on resolving the issue with the Ogden Ice Sheet and is requesting SLOC to assist in building an enclosed patio for the facility. There is an issue on the Bear Hollow Road in Summit County. Yet another issue he is addressing is security for the cultural events that are going to be held during the Olympics in Park City. There are three construction projects that are not finished but we have been assured that they are on schedule.

The most important part that we could do as communities is to find ways for us to be involved; to organize people within your communities. Communities can design and order Olympic pins with their logos and special designs they create and use them as fund raisers with proper authorization. Mr. Beattie is also working on putting together a passport program to encourage people to visit all the Olympic venues in our State.

Senator Millie Peterson asked if there were any plans to have pins for the Senators and Representatives. Mr. Beattie responded by stating that pins are currently being designed for both the Senate and the House and he plans on presenting the designs to leadership in the very near future.

Rep. Chad Bennion inquired about the criminal case and the timing of the trial. Mr. Beattie indicated he did not have these details to respond to that.

Mr. Beattie reported that the East-West light rail was not an Olympic project, and will not be used as a transportation mode for the public to the opening and closing ceremonies, although it will transport athletes and others to and from the University and Olympic Village during the games.

Rep. Bennion asked about the SLOC repayment to local governments. Mr. Beattie stated that \$59 million from sales tax was due back to the State, which will be split among local governments and the State.

We are monitoring SLOC's budget on a monthly basis, to include all of the receipts, past due accounts, payments, and any increases. At the present time, SLOC is \$60 million out of balance. However there is \$136 million in an contingency account, Mr. Beattie stated.

During the Olympics, Utah will have 9,000 accredited press and about 3,000 non-credited media. There will also be several other local papers. The State of Utah through the Travel Council is organizing a hosting center for non-accredited media. Areas for protest will be designated.

Mr. Beattie asked anyone who had additional questions relating to Olympics to contact State Olympic Office at (801) 538-2002.

IV. Review of 2001 Legislation

John Bennett distributed handouts related to **HB 155 Annexation Bill.** Two of the handouts were prepared by the Utah League of Cities and Towns and are called "Annexation Law Update For All Counties Except Salt Lake" and "Annexation Law Update for Municipalities in Salt Lake County." The major difference in Salt Lake County is that, as of April 30 through November 15, 2001, there is a moratorium on annexations, except for the ones that are forced on the cities. (Under current law If an area within Salt Lake County is adjacent to a city, and if the tax rate of an unincorporated area is higher than the tax rate of the city, the city is required to take them, assuming they meet the other criteria.) The cities and the county must negotiate a deal on how to proceed with annexations in Salt Lake County and report to the Legislative Management Committee at their meeting on November 15, 2001.

HB 30 Vehicle Towing and Reporting Requirements Bill passed and has been signed by the Governor. .

HB86 Tax Task Force. A modified version of Rep. Bennion's bill passed. Mayor Auger asked if there would be notification to UACIR members of Interim Committee meeting dates when this task force would meet. John Bennett agreed to make notification of meeting dates to Council members. Chairman Bassett suggested having this information posted on UAC & ULCT's website. Mr. Bennett indicated that meeting dates and other information relating to all bills is posted on the Legislature's website.

Mr. Bennett referred to a handout listing other bills that passed that might be of interest to some of the Council members.

V. Review of UACIR Bylaws

Chairman Bassett indicated that, at the last meeting, discussion involved the possible need to change the bylaws relating to a quorum. In the last few meeting we have had difficulty in having a quorum.

Mark Bedel indicated a copy of UACIR bylaws was included in the packet distributed to Council members prior to the meeting. Mr. Bedel also pointed out that, according to statute, 22 members are to be appointed to UACIR, and 12 members would constitute a quorum. There has been difficulty in having a quorum in previous meetings due to the fact that several of the Council members' terms expired in December of this past year and it takes some time to go through the process of reappointing or appointing new members.

Mr. Bedel announced that the appointments done by the Governor, for the local government and cabinet level officials have been made. The Senate appointments have also been made. We are still missing four appointments from the House of Representatives.

Chairman Bassett stated that, considering the difficulty in getting the appointments and reappointments done in a timely manner, we might change the bylaws to provide that, if a reappointment has not occurred, the person in that position would continue serving until the reappointment is made. Senator Peterson suggested changing the statute and the bylaws to state that a quorum constitutes half of the members plus one of the current membership. Commissioner Cone supported Senator Peterson's suggestion.

MOTION: Millie Peterson made a motion to start a bill file to make changes to the statute and the bylaws relating to the quorum and the Council's membership. Chesley Christensen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Auger pointed to the bylaws, under "amending the bylaws," it states "Proposed amendments shall be considered to pass if two-thirds of voting membership vote in the affirmative." There was extensive discussion on the issue of a quorum. Senator Peterson asked staff to provide a complete copy of the bylaws identifying those areas that are statutory and those that are not. Chairman Bassett suggested putting the review of the bylaws on the agenda at next meeting. UACIR staff agreed to send the requested information to members prior to the April meeting.

Ann Wilcox-Hardy indicated that something needed to be done to encourage regular attendance by members. Mayor Auger suggested giving a lot of thought prior to changing the attendance requirements in the bylaws and consider those special circumstances where a member isn't able to attend some meetings and it isn't by choice.

VI. UACIR Priorities and Work for 2001

Chairman Bassett indicated the purpose of this discussion was to determine what UACIR's role should be with the Legislature and prepare a work plan for this year. Over the years there have been members of the Council that felt that we are somewhat reactive to things instead of being proactive, hopefully we will be able to accomplish tasks this year that will be proactive as well determine what we need to do to have a good relationship with the Legislature and provide input and a service to the Legislature that will be productive.

Mark Bedel referred to the handout in the packet which includes a conceptual outline and included meeting dates so that topics/issues could be plugged into those meetings. The Council would determine study items and the work plan and the staff will provide the assistance needed. A copy of the Legislature Master Study Resolution was provided in the packet for issues to consider as study items for the Council.

Senator Peterson indicated that Interim Committee meetings begin in April and that is generally when they decide which study items they are going to do. Normally they choose only one or two study items. The list of study items is extensive. Senator Peterson suggested having the Council pick some

items that are not going to be studied by Interim Committee. Senator Peterson said she felt that last year was far more productive than any other year she served with UACIR. She expressed unhappiness with the outcome of the Tax Task Force. The reason was that although individuals can testify, once the Task Force shuts off testimony period, the only people that get to discuss is the legislators. Senator Peterson stated she has been on many different task forces and the best ones have included people from the outside. Furthermore, she feels that having only legislators in a Task Force isn't the best system. This system leaves the rest of the world out cold. The concept of a Tax Task Force was supported by UACIR, but not the way it was formed.

Senator Peterson recommended the review the Master Study Resolution and for each member to come up with at least two or three items and submit them to Mark Bedel so that he can present a list to the Council at the next meeting. Senator Peterson suggested the tax cuts issue as one of the items for consideration.

Mayor Auger stated that she believed that one of the reasons last year was a successful year is because there were two or three issues the Council focused on and worked on over the period of a year. The Mayor added that she would have preferred a different make up of the Tax Task Force, but is glad that they are going to take a look at the tax structure, which was something that needed to be done. Mayor Auger supported the idea of having everyone submit two or three issues.

Ann Wilcox-Hardy pointed out that all three of the Legislative bills that the Council was involved with did not come as a result of the Council picking them out, they came from people coming to the Council. She suggested asking ULCT and UAC if there are issues they would like the Council to consider studying. Mr. Bedel indicated that was a great idea, as UACIR has members that represent ULCT and UAC, as well as other organizations, therefore, he recommended they meet with their constituents and provide the Council some of the issues they are interested in having the Council consider for further study.

James Whitaker suggested looking at federal issues that affect local governments. Ann Wilcox Hardy indicated there was a recent mandate that deals with storm drainage, of which she has concerns. Mr. Bennett indicated he could ask the federal delegation to report on mandates that would affect state and local governments if the Council desires. Senator Peterson suggested making the agenda more interesting to attract a bigger audience and also including counterpoint positions on the agenda. Chairman Bassett suggested having congressional delegates report on specific issues rather than a general report. Mayor Auger recommended having Congress have more of a dialogue with the Council rather than give a report. Mr. Bennett asked the Council to identify issues they would like Congress to comment on.

Chairman Bassett requested all members to submit at least two study issues to Mark Bedel by April 16, 2001, so that the Council can prioritize at the next meeting.

VII. Other Business

Chairman Bassett would like to discuss the role with Legislature at future meetings. Senator Peterson recommended sending a letter to Legislative leadership requesting their input on how we could help them.

It was suggested that a draft letter be prepared and presented at the next meeting to address the Governor request on the tax issue.

VIII. Planning for the 2001 Summit

Mark Bedel requested some appointments to serve on the Planning Subcommittee. Information was provided on previous Summits, such as evaluations and input from those attendees on what issues they would like to consider having in future Summits. Input on themes, topics, speakers was solicited.

The following individuals volunteered to serve on the 2001 Summit Planning Subcommittee:

SRep. Chad Bennion

\$Ann-Wilcox Hardy

STed Boyer

\$Senator Millie Peterson

SLinda Hamilton (volunteered at a later date)

Mr. Bedel asked to be notified as soon as possible of any dates that could conflict with the Summit in August.

VIII. Next Meeting/Adjournment

DATE: Friday, April 27, 2001

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Room 223 - State Capitol

Salt Lake City

Meeting Adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Sylvia Haro

This and all other UACIR information is available on GOPB's web site www.governor.state.ut.us/uacir